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# PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS

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## UNITED STATES

REPORTS TO THE SURGEON GENERAL, PUBLIC HEALTH AND MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE

### PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK

#### DISTRIBUTION OF POISON

In connection with the making of a squirrel-free zone around the cities in California on San Francisco Bay, 1,060 acres of land in Alameda County and 400 in Contra Costa County were covered with poison during the week ended December 17, 1910.

#### Record of Plague Infection

Place	Date of last case of human plague	Date of last case of rat plague	Date of last case of squirrel plague	Total number of rodents found infected since May, 1907
California:				
Cities—				
San Francisco.....	Jan. 30, 1908.....	Oct. 23, 1908.....	None.....	398 rats.
Oakland.....	Oct. 26, 1909.....	Dec. 1, 1908.....	do.....	126 rats.
Berkeley.....	Aug. 28, 1907.....	None recorded.....	do.....	None.
Los Angeles.....	Aug. 11, 1908.....	None.....	Aug. 21, 1908.....	1 squirrel.
Counties—				
Alameda (exclusive of the city of Oakland).....	Sept. 26, 1909.....	{ Wood rat, Oct. 17, 1909.	{ Dec. 1, 1910.....	{ 85 squirrels
Contra Costa.....	July 21, 1908.....	None.....	Sept. 10, 1910.....	1 wood rat.
Merced.....	None recorded.....	do.....	June 6, 1910.....	247 squirrels.
Monterey.....	do.....	do.....	do.....	2 squirrels.
San Benito.....	June 5, 1910.....	do.....	July 11, 1910.....	4 squirrels.
San Joaquin.....	None recorded.....	do.....	Nov. 15, 1910.....	20 squirrels.
San Luis Obispo.....	do.....	do.....	Jan. 29, 1910.....	9 squirrels.
Santa Clara.....	Aug. 23, 1910.....	do.....	Oct. 5, 1910.....	1 squirrel.
Santa Cruz.....	None recorded.....	do.....	May 17, 1910.....	23 squirrels.
Stanislaus.....	do.....	do.....	May 21, 1910.....	3 squirrels.
Washington:				
Seattle.....	Oct. 30, 1907.....	Feb. 8, 1910.....	None.....	5 squirrels.
				22 rats.

## Rats Collected and Examined for Plague Infection

Places	Week ended—	Found dead	Total collected	Examined	Found infected
California:					
Cities—					
Berkeley .....	Dec. 17	.....	<sup>1</sup> 128	102	.....
Oakland .....	do.	55	<sup>2</sup> 673	510	.....
San Francisco .....	do.	21	<sup>3</sup> 1,711	1,337	.....
Washington:					
Seattle .....	Nov. 5	.....	836	734	.....
Do .....	Nov. 12	.....	1,068	954	.....
Do .....	Nov. 19	.....	1,075	947	.....
Do .....	Nov. 26	.....	771	684	.....
Total .....		76	6,262	5,268	.....

<sup>1</sup> Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 107, *Mus musculus* 21.<sup>2</sup> Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 564, *Mus rattus* 1, *Mus musculus* 107, *Mus alexandrinus* 1.<sup>3</sup> Identified, *Mus norvegicus* 1,069, *Mus rattus* 190, *Mus musculus* 296, *Mus alexandrinus* 156.

## Squirrels Collected and Examined for Plague Infection

Place	Week ended—	Trapped and shot	Found dead	Examined	Found infected
California:					
Counties—					
Alameda .....	Dec. 17	267	4	271	.....
Contra Costa .....	do.	37	.....	37	.....
Fresno .....	do.	38	.....	38	.....
Los Angeles .....	do.	164	.....	150	.....
Mariposa .....	do.	85	.....	85	.....
Merced .....	do.	53	.....	53	.....
Monterey .....	do.	535	.....	519	.....
Napa .....	do.	51	.....	51	.....
Sacramento .....	do.	15	.....	15	.....
San Joaquin .....	do.	143	.....	139	.....
San Luis Obispo .....	do.	176	2	174	.....
San Mateo .....	do.	63	.....	63	.....
Santa Clara .....	do.	122	.....	120	.....
Stanislaus .....	do.	61	.....	61	.....
Total .....		1,810	6	1,776	.....

## Other Animals Collected and Examined

Place	Week ended—	Animals collected	Examined	Found infected
California:				
Counties—				
Alameda .....	Dec. 17	1 chipmunk.....	1	.....
Kern .....	do.	10 kangaroo rats.....	.....	.....
		2 field mice .....	.....	.....
		6 chipmunks .....	18	.....
Merced .....	do.	6 rabbits .....	6	.....
Monterey .....	do.	1 chipmunk .....	1	.....
San Luis Obispo .....	do.	5 chipmunks .....	5	.....
San Mateo .....	do.	1 rabbit .....	1	.....
Stanislaus .....	do.	1 kangaroo rat .....	1	.....
Total .....			33	.....

## SMALLPOX IN THE UNITED STATES

In the following tables the States indicated by an asterisk are those from which reports of smallpox are received only from certain city, and in some cases county, boards of health. In these States, therefore, the recorded cases and deaths should not be taken as showing the general prevalence of the disease. In the States not marked by an asterisk the reports are received monthly from the State boards of health and include all cases reported throughout the State.